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BALTIMORE, MD,
NEWS POST

Lips Must Be Buttoned If Kennedy Is to Retain Ike-Nixon Support

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Hearst Headline Special

WASHINGTON, April 26—

If President Kennedy wants to enjoy the continued bipartisan foreign policy support of Richard M. Nixon and Dwight D. Eisenhower, he will have to button the lips of some of his own top teammates.

The former Vice President, who in Kennedy's own words has been "most helpful" during the Cuban crisis, nearly hit the proverbial ceiling when he read Interior Secretary Stewart Udall's remarks about the fiasco.

Udall, on an ABC television interview, tried to shift the blame for the invasion debacle to the former administration. Claiming that it was conceived by Ike and Nixon last year, he said: "They started it and handed it over" to Kennedy.

THIS WAS definitely not the line that President Kennedy took with Nixon, when he invited his erstwhile Presidential rival to the White House late last week to discuss the Cuban and Laos crises.

At that time, he acknowledged he had had ample time to review the situation. He also took full responsibility for the Cuban disaster.

Nixon was therefore infuriated by Udall's attempted blame-shifting, and by reports of off-the-record press briefings held by White House assistant Ted Ræardon and others, which he thinks unfairly sought to blame the Eisenhower rather than the Kennedy administration for the thwarted invasion.

KENNEDY is going to need the unifying support of Nixon and Eisenhower in these difficult days ahead. Both gave it generously, when the President tactfully sought it at personal briefings.

All the good that the President has accomplished by his courteous wooing will be squandered, however, if he permits his cabinet officers and White House staffers to talk slanted partisan politics about foreign policy.

Nixon, when he read the account of Udall's remarks, said if there is any more of that from top Kennedy of-

ficials, he will issue a public statement of the facts.

These facts would include the obvious one that although Kennedy has been in office not quite one hundred days, he has had the services of CIA Chief Allen Dulles at his disposal since late last summer.

DULLES BRIEFED Kennedy throughout the fall campaign. He gave him a broad fill-in on Cuba before the last "great debate," and a few days after the November election, Kennedy announced that he would retain Dulles as head of the CIA.

Faulty intelligence about the strength of Castro's police state and the number of available Soviet tanks and planes has been largely blamed for the invasion disaster.

Nixon favors not less, but more para-military operations to beat the Communists at their own guerrilla game. He believes CIA should be completely overhauled, however, so that its activities are restricted to intelligence gathering, and not to operations.

He feels that the worst result of the Cuban fiasco would

be for us to wash our hands of this kind of operation.

He thinks these guerrilla actions are essential, but that we must not get mixed up in

them unless we are willing to fight to a victorious conclusion.

To keep Latin Americans on our side, we have to win.